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## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable AL FRANKEN, a Senator from the State of Minnesota.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God be in our heads, eyes, mouths, hearts, and in our understanding. God be in our looking, our thinking, and our speaking. God be with the Members of this legislative body today. Teach them and lead them into all truth. Unite them with a common desire to do what is best for our Nation and world. Give them grace to take judicious risks for the sake of truth and justice. Enable them to experience a fresh regenerating touch of Your power. In the decisions to be made in crucial days ahead, make them worthy of these demanding times that call aloud for wisdom and character. We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable AL FRANKEN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, September 21, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of Rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable AL FRANKEN, a Senator from the State of Minnesota, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. FRANKEN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today in the Senate there will be a period of morning business until 11 a.m. with the time controlled between the leaders or their designees. The majority will control the first half of that time; the Republicans will control the second half.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to the Defense authorization bill. The time until 12:30 p.m. will be equally divided between Senators LEVIN and MCCAIN or their designees.

The Senate will then recess from 12:30 until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings. At 2:15, the

Senate will proceed to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the DOD authorization bill.

### DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I want to say a few things on the vote we will have at 2:15 p.m. today. The issue that is creating all of the attention is a provision that the committee put in the bill dealing with don't ask, don't tell. The committee did a good job on that issue. What they said is, if the President of the United States and the Secretary of Defense, after reviewing the work being done by the Pentagon—which will be completed this December—decide it is in the best interest of the United States military to do away with that policy, that will be the case.

There are some who are saying this bill that came out of the committee repeals don't ask, don't tell. That is not the fact. It is not repealed in the bill. It simply says, I repeat, if the Defense Department, with the Secretary of the Defense and the President, certifies it will have no negative effect on the military after studying the Pentagon's work, then they can move forward on that and, in effect, repeal that policy. But it is not in this bill.

Anyway, the point is, we are going to have that vote at 2:15 p.m., and I will discuss with the Republican leader later today what we are going to do if there are amendments that are going to be offered on that. I have said some of the things I am interested in doing on that bill. I am not here in any way suggesting that people aren't being accurate in their depiction of this bill. I

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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